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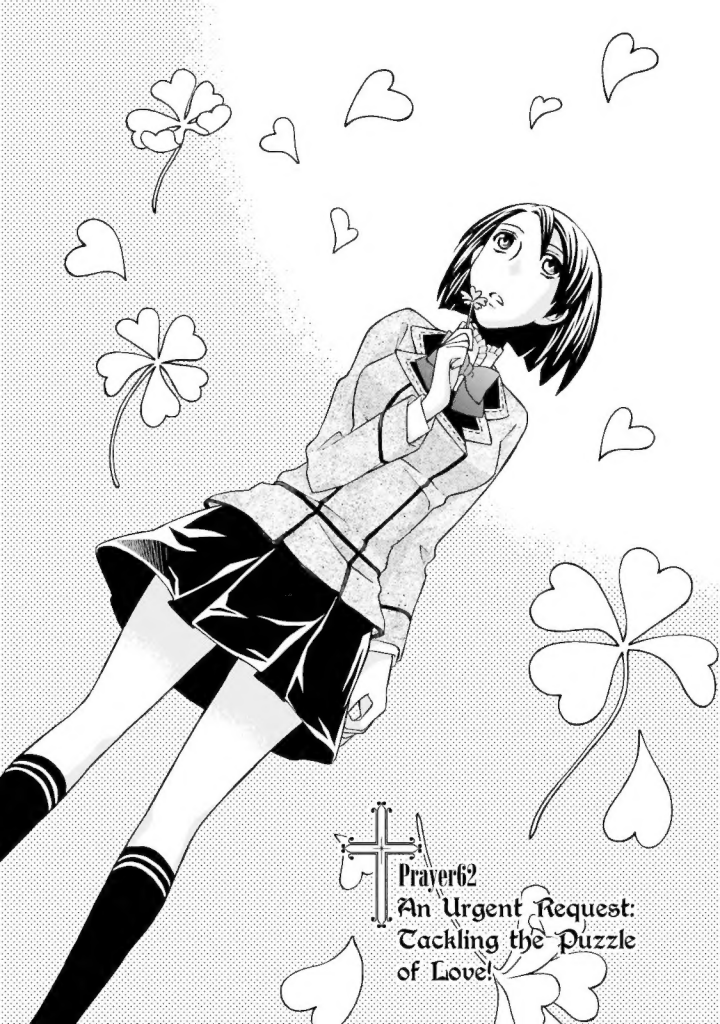
MARIA HOLIC

THAT GIRL, AND THAT GIRL, AND THAT GIRL OVER THERE...
ARE THEY ALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE?



Prayer62
An Urgent Request: Tackling the Puzzle of Love!

I THINK...
I'M LACKING SOMETHING AS A WOMAN...
.....
.....
YOU SAY "AS A WOMAN," BUT...
...I DON'T THINK THERE'S MUCH YOU AREN'T LACKING AS A HUMAN BEING. PERIOD.

SO, MARIYA, WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?
DON'T MOCK PEOPLE WHEN THEY'RE SERIOUSLY WORRYING ABOUT SOMETHING.
WHAT DO YOU ACTUALLY WANT FROM ME?
LOVE IS AN ADULT ISSUE, SO LITTLE BOYS WOULD BE BETTER OFF KEEPING THEIR MOUTHS SHUT.

MARIYA...
WHAT DO YOU THINK LOVE IS?
...I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS LOVE, BUT...

I'M GOING TO GO SURVEY PEOPLE ABOUT WHAT LOVE REALLY IS!
AS SOMEONE WHO HAS EXACTLY ZERO MAIDEN POINTS, ALL I HAVE IS THE POWER OF ACTION!
CURRENT MAIDEN POINTS
MAX
EMPTY
I'M OVERWHELMED WITH THE POWER OF MY BEAUTY EVERY MORNING WHEN I LOOK AT MYSELF IN THE MIRROR.
MISS HOUSE MOTHER, WHAT IS LOVE?
THAT'S A DIFFICULT QUESTION.
IT CHANGES FROM TIME TO TIME BASED ON THE TRENDS AND CONTEXT OF THE ERAAAAA.
IF I WERE TO EXPRESS THE LOVE OF TODAY IN ONE WORD...
WHYYYY DO YOU ASK OUT OF THE BLUUUUUE?

LET'S SEEEEEE.
LOVE...
...IS AN IP☆D MINI...
EXCUSE ME?
ALTHOOOOOUGH YOU CAN'T COUNT OUT THE NEW IP☆D NANO.
MISS HOUSE MOTHER, YOU'RE NOT REALLY CENSORING THAT PROPERLY.
AND GOD IS STILL A YOUNG MAIDEN, SO SHE WOULD PREFER A NICE PINK OOOOONE.
PAT
WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE GOODS FROM MISTER APPLE, COME TALK TO ME AGAAAAAIN.
CURRENT MAIDEN POINTS
MAX
EMPTY

NURSE TONOMURA, WHAT IS LOVE?
LOVE, HUH? LET'S SEE...
ROOP ROOP
ROOP ROOP
WELL, AT MY AGE, YOU'VE KIND OF ALREADY SKIPPED OVER LOVE AND GONE ON TO JUST LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO MARRY.

EVERY DATE IS LIKE A BATTLE...
KIND OF LIKE, I DON'T KNOW... THE OPENING PITCH IN BASEBALL.
MUNCH
MUNCH
THE SENSE OF PRESSURE ON THAT ONE PITCH IS INCREDIBLE.
MUNCH
MUNCH

I FEEL LIKE ALL I DID WAS THROW THE BALL AROUND RANDOMLY.
BUT I THINK IT'S GREAT TO PUT YOUR ALL INTO EVERY SINGLE THROW.
WHEN YOU'RE YOUNG, IT'S OKAY TO BE RECKLESS.

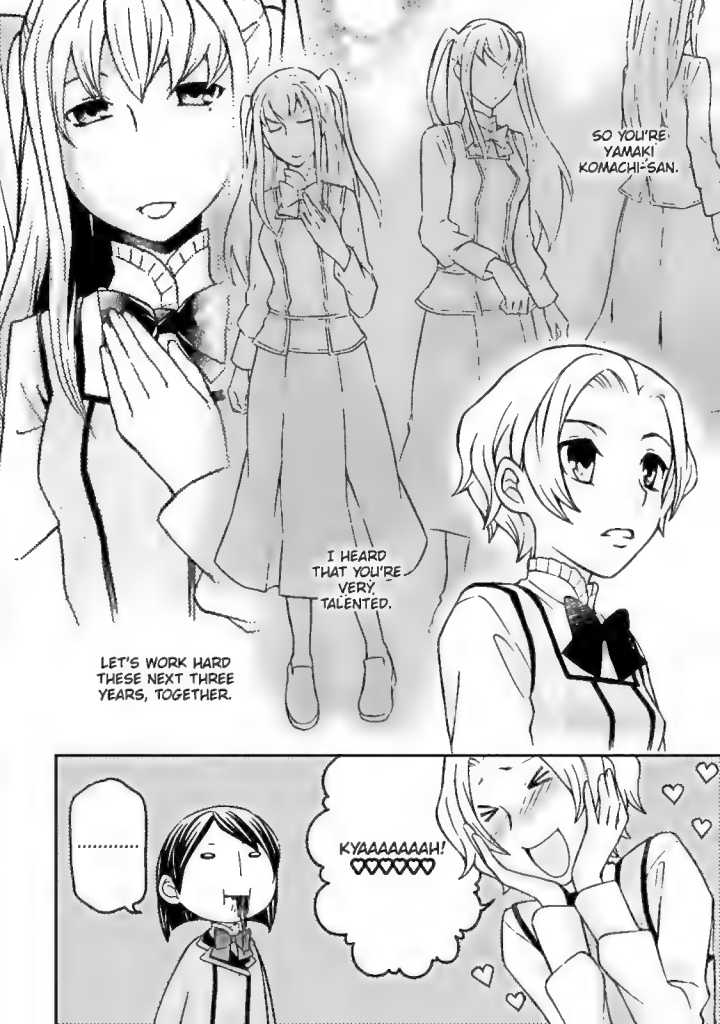
YES, APPEARANCES ARE IMPORTANT WHEN YOU'RE AT THAT AGE.
BUT AS YOU GET OLDER, YOU START TO REALIZE THAT YOU DON'T HAVE AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF BALLS TO THROW.
AND THE SPECS THAT YOU LOOK FOR IN YOUR PARTNER CHANGE FROM WHEN YOU WERE IN YOUR TEENS.
BUT SOMEDAY THAT VALUE SYSTEM WILL CHANGE...
...FROM LOOKS TO "STOP GAMBLING," OR "QUIT THE BAND," OR "FIND A JOB." SOMETHING MORE SERIOUS LIKE THAT.
WHAT KIND OF MEN DO YOU LIKE, MIYAMAE-SAN?
Huh?
I'M THE TYPE WHO COULD GO FOR CUTE, BEAUTIFUL, OR COOL.

YOU THINK LOVE IS ALL THAT'S IMPORTANT, RIGHT?
BUT LOVE...
YOU THINK YOU'D EVEN BE FINE WITH A PUNK, RIGHT? THAT'S YOUTH.
BUT THINK ABOUT IT. COULD YOU INTRODUCE YOUR MOHAWKED FREE-WHEELING FIANCÉ TO YOUR BOSS? NO, RIGHT?

YES, WELL...
IT'S NOT EXACTLY NORMAL, BUT IF THEY GET ALONG...
THAT'S NAÏVE, MIYAMAE-SAN.
LOVE IS ROMANTIC, BUT MARRIAGE IS REALITY.
YOU CAN LOVE WHOEVER YOU CHOOSE, BUT MARRIAGE INVOLVES FAMILIES.
Someone like this?
JUST LOOK AT OUR FUMIN.
EVERY WEEK SHE'S GETTING PICTURES FROM MATCHMAKING SERVICES...
STOP IT! NOT IN FRONT OF THE STUDENTS!!
HER PARENTS ARE NATURALLY WORRIED ABOUT THEIR ONLY DAUGHTER'S FUTURE.
AND IF THINGS WORK OUT, THEY'D LIKE TO TAKE HER HUSBAND AS HEIR...
THAT'S QUITE ENOUGH!
STOP IT! DON'T MAKE UP STORIES ABOUT MY FAMILY'S CIRCUMSTANCES!

Hey!
YOU CAN'T JUST WRAP IT UP SO SMOOTHLY AFTER SAYING ALL OF THAT!
MIYAMAE-SAN, YOU SHOULD JUST LISTEN TO YOUR HEART AND TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT THINGS TOO HARD.
GET LOST IN THE LABYRINTH OF LOVE..!!
OKAY?
A MATCHMAKING SERVICE IS LIKE A DATING SITE, BUT COMES WITH THE APPROVAL OF YOUR PARENTS.
I TOLD YOU NOT TO TALK ABOUT THIS IN FRONT OF STUDENTS!!
UMMMM...
I DIDN'T GET WHAT SHE WAS SAYING AT ALL.
CURRENT MAIDEN POINTS
MAX
EMPTY
MAYBE I HAVE TO TALK TO SOMEONE CLOSER TO MY OWN AGE.
TAK TAK
TAK TAK

YAMAKI KOMACHI-SAN, WHAT IS LOVE?
EEEEEEEEEK!☆
キラキラ
LOVE?!
LOVE IS THE HEART ARROW I WAS STRUCK BY WHEN I FIRST MET MARIYA-CHAN!
I THINK THAT THAT'S REAL LOVE!!
.....
EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT LOOK LIKE IT, I'M ACTUALLY SUPER GOOD AT STUDYING.
I'M GREAT AT SPORTS AND TOTALLY GOOD LOOKING☆ AND I'VE GOT A LOT OF PRIDE. I ALWAYS THINK I'M THE BEST, SO...
...AT FIRST, I SAW MARIYA-CHAN AS A RIVAL FOR THE POSITION OF TOP STUDENT IN OUR YEAR, BUT...


SO YOU'RE YAMAKI KOMACHI-SAN.
I HEARD THAT YOU'RE VERY TALENTED.
LET'S WORK HARD THESE NEXT THREE YEARS, TOGETHER.
.....
KYAAAAAAAH! ♡♡♡♡♡

LOVE REALLY IS WONDERFUL.
MARIYA-CHA
CLICK
MAIN VOLUME
MUTE
MUTE ON

※THIS BROADCAST HAS BEEN MUTED.

...HEY, ARE YOU LISTENING? I'M TELLING YOU HOW WONDERFUL MARIYA-CHAN IS.
Huh?
WHY ARE YOU COVERING YOUR EARS?

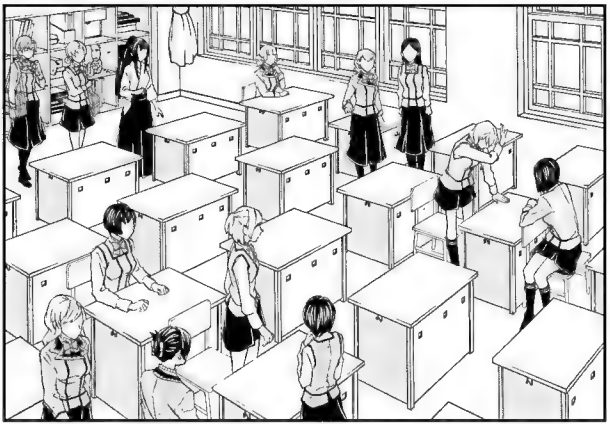
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
...ESPECIALLY A PIECE OF CRAP LIKE MARIYA, ISN'T HELPING ME AT ALL.
HEARING ABOUT A MAN...
THE PERSON I SHOULD SEE IS...
STOMP
CURRENT MAIDEN POINTS
MAX
EMPTY

SLAM
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HEY HEY HEY HEY!
HONOKA-SAN, HONOKA-SAN, WHAT DOES LOVE FEEL LIKE? HUH HUH HUH?

YOU'RE IN LOVE, AREN'T YOU?
LET ME HAVE SOME OF THOSE BUTTERFLIES!
IS IT HARD? IS IT PAINFUL? DO YOU WET YOUR CHEEKS WITH LEMON TEARS?
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?!
Hee hee! ♡
IS THE PINK IN YOUR CHEEKS YOUR FEELINGS FOR THAT PERSON?
IT'S MY ANGER TOWARDS YOU.
I CAN FEEL MY MAIDEN POINTS RISING AND RISING.
THIS IS GOOD, YES, THIS IS SO GOOD! ♡
IT'S NOT GOOD AT ALL!

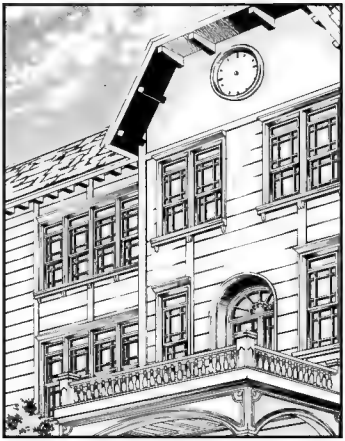
MIYAMAE-SAN, YOU'RE BEING INSENSITIVE!
INSENSITIVE!
HM? KANAKO-CHAN AND HONOKA-CHAN SURE ARE EXCITED THIS MORNING.
OH, I GET IT!
THE AGE WHEN CHILDREN WILL LAUGH AT ANYTHING...
...MAYBE IT'S THAT?
HOW CLUELESS COULD THEY BE?
KANAKO-SAN'S OFF ON SOME CRAZY SCHEME AGAIN...
I HOPE SHE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING TO UPSET HONOKA-SAN EVEN MORE...
COULD IT BE THAT THE OBJECT OF YOUR AFFECTION IS RYUKEN-SAMA?
カァ
BLUSH

SLAP



.....
...HUH?
...I'M SORRY.
I'M NOT FEELING SO WELL, SO I THINK I'LL GO HOME EARLY.

AH...
DASH



HONOKA-SAN...
HEY, SO, BY THE WAY... WHY'D I GET SLAPPED?
YOU DON'T KNOW?!
DON'T KNOW?!

HEY!
BUMP
!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
HEY! LOOK IN FRONT OF YOU WHEN YOU'RE RUNNING!
WAIT, NO! DON'T RUN IN SCHOOL!
HONOKA-KUN...?

I RAN OUT OF THE CLASSROOM IN A HUFF, BUT...
WELL...
SHOULD I GO BACK TO THE DORMS, OR SHOULD I GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE...?
BUT I DON'T WANT TO WORRY ANYONE BY PRETENDING TO BE SICK...
IT'D BE TOO AWKWARD TO GO BACK TO CLASS NOW, BUT...
WHAT DO I DO NOW?
...IT'S NOT LIKE EVERYTHING WILL JUST BE NORMAL IF I GO BACK TOMORROW OR THE NEXT DAY.

HUH?
RYUIKEN-SAMA?!
GOOD MORNING.
I SHOULD'VE SLAPPED HER ON BOTH OF HER CHEEKS!
HA HA...
IT'S NOT NICE TO SLAP PEOPLE.

O-O-OF COURSE...
NO...
LMMM...
WELL, I...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
I DON'T MIND, BUT...!
KYAAAAAH KYAAAAAH KYAAAAAH!!
O-O-O-O-O-OH NO, SHE'S SO CLOSE!
KYAH!!
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
YOU CAN TELL ME ABOUT IT IF YOU'D LIKE.

RYUKEN-SAMA SMELLS NICE...
IS IT HER HAIR...?
UH... UM...!
...?
WHAT SORT OF SHAMPOO DO YOU USE?!

YOU IDIOT!
YOU IDIOT!
YOU IDIOT, SHE DEFINITELY THINKS YOU'RE A WEIRDO NOW!
...OH... OH NO...
UMMM...
IT'S JUST...
...THE CHEAP SHAMPOO THE HOUSE MOTHER BUYS FOR THE DORM BATHS.
SHAM-POO?

BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE THAT WAY WITH A SCHOOLMATE I CARE ABOUT.
I ONLY HAVE A FEW MORE MONTHS AS YOUR SENPAI TO HELP YOU GUYS OUT.
...I SEE.
SORRY! I DON'T REALLY BOTHER WHEN IT COMES TO THAT SORT OF STUFF.
It's true, it's true!
そうそう
そうそう
It's true.
そうそう
RYUKEN-SAMA...?
HITOTSUBASHI-KUN AND HABUTAE-KUN TOLD ME THEY WERE WORRIED BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN BOTTLING THINGS UP LATELY.
HONOKA-KUN, YESTERDAY WHEN I WAS WALKING HOME WITH CHIFUMI, YOU WERE LOOKING AT ME, WEREN'T YOU?
PANIC
あぁ
YOU NOTICED?!
PANIC
あぁ
あぁ

I CAN'T TELL HER THAT I JUST WANTED TO LOOK AT HER.
N-NO...
YESTERDAY, I JUST...

I WAS WAITING FOR YOU TO SAY SOMETHING TO ME...
...BUT MAYBE YOU DIDN'T BECAUSE CHIFUMI WAS THERE?
I CAN'T SAY IT.

SO I GOT A LITTLE FULL OF MYSELF AND THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD COME TO ME FIRST...
I DEFINITELY CAN'T SAY...
...I LOVE YOU.

I LOVE YOU.
I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT...
I CAN'T CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR SOMEONE SO KIND.
I WAS REALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU ASKED ME TO HELP YOU OUT WITH YOUR CAMPAIGN.
IT REALLY MADE ME FEEL LIKE YOU TRUSTED ME.

...WHO I LOVE.
...THERE'S SOME-ONE...
WHA?
CLATTER
WHAAAT?
HUH?
HUH?!
I-I-I-I-I...
IS IT REALLY OKAY TO TELL SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT TO ME?
I...
I SEE...
MY HEART FEELS LIKE IT'S BEING CRUSHED.
SO I...I WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE THEM FOR MUCH LONGER.
THAT PERSON IS MY SENPAI, AND THEY'RE GOING TO BE GRADUATING SOON...

SENPAI?
YOU MEAN... FROM AME NO KISAKI?
...IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT?
FALLING IN LOVE WITH A WOMAN...
I KNOW.
I KNOW THAT THIS IS JUST A TYPICAL YOUTHFUL FANTASY.
WHEN I WAKE UP FROM THIS DREAM, I WILL FALL IN LOVE WITH A MAN...
...AND THIS WILL JUST BE A FUNNY STORY FROM MY YOUTH.
BUT RIGHT NOW...
RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT...
JUST BEING BY HER SIDE MAKES ME HAPPY, AND YET IT HURTS.
AND JUST HEARING HER VOICE EXCITES ME, AND MAKES ME FEEL HELPLESS.

JUST SEEING HER...
...I LOVE HER.
I LOVE HER SO MUCH...
...I FEEL LIKE I COULD DIE.
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF SOMEONE SAID THAT TO YOU, RYUKEN-SAMA...?
YOU WOULD HATE IT, RIGHT?
YOU WOULD FEEL DISGUSTED, WOULDN'T YOU?
DID YOU TELL HER HOW YOU FEEL?
...I'M JEALOUS OF WHOEVER IS THE TARGET OF SUCH HONEST PASSION.

YEAH, I'D BE FLATTERED, BUT...
I'D PROBABLY HAVE TO REJECT HER.

BUT THAT'S NOT BECAUSE WE'RE THE SAME SEX.
I THINK THAT IT WOULD ONLY CORRUPT SOMEONE IF I CASUALLY DATED THEM...
IT'S BECAUSE I'M NOT IN LOVE WITH HER.
...WHEN I COULDN'T RETURN THE INTENSITY OF THEIR FEELINGS.

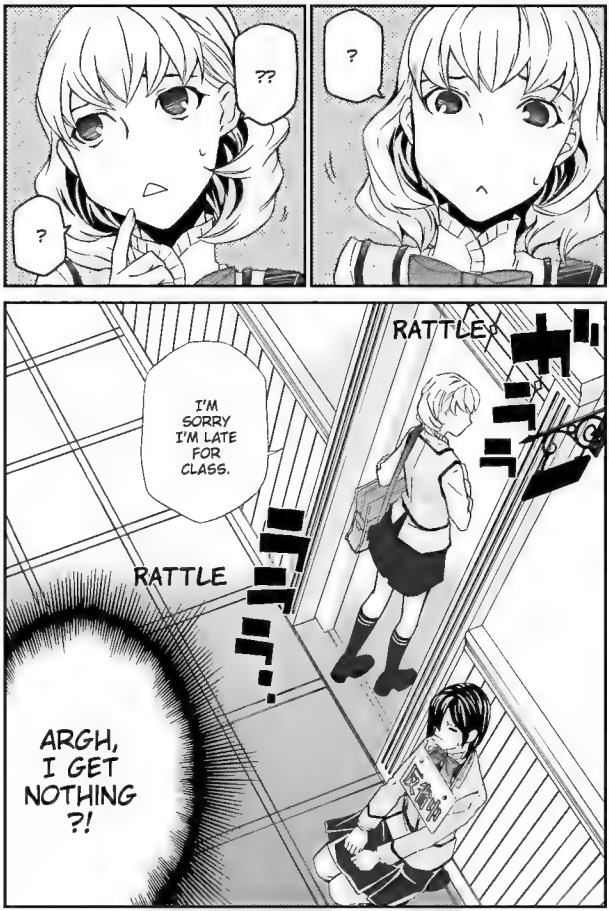
I THINK THAT LOVING SOMEONE IS A WONDERFUL THING.
AND I THINK THAT THE SORT OF PERSON WHO CAN LOVE SOMEONE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR POSITION, OR GENDER, OR BACKGROUND IS SOMEONE TO BE ADMIRED.

I REALLY RESPECT THOSE FEELINGS AND AM FLATTERED YOU HAVE THEM FOR ME.

SO...
THANK YOU.

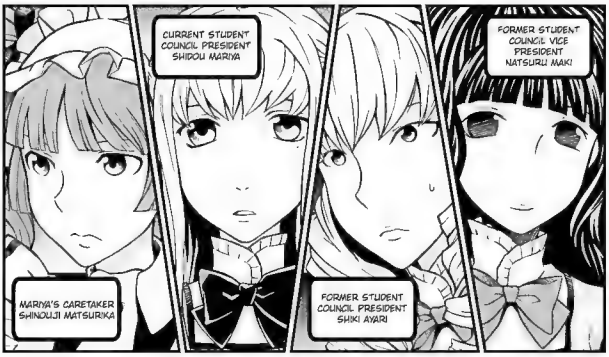
THANK YOU.
I LOVE YOU, ISHIMA-SENPAI.

Wha...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE CORRIDOR, MIYAMAE-SAN?
.....
REPENTING
2-A
.....
廊下で正座ですわ!!
Sit in the hall!
In the hall! In the hall!
ですわですわ!!
HONOKA-SAN, HONOKA-SAN, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
RIGHT NOW I AM SPEAKING DIRECTLY INTO YOUR HEART.
I AM SINCERELY SORRY, SO, PLEASE, TELL ME YOU FORGIVE ME.
TELL ME THAT YOU FORGIVE ME, AND, RELEASE THIS PATHETIC CREATURE FROM HER TORTURE.
WELL, IT IS WHAT IT IS.
I'M BEING PUNISHED FOR SAYING AND DOING UNNECESSARY THINGS.
.....


??
?
?
RATTLE
ガラガラ
I'M SORRY I'M LATE FOR CLASS.
RATTLE
ガラガラ!
ARGH, I GET NOTHING ?!

はい
FLAP
THE REASON I ASKED ALL OF YOU TO GATHER HERE IS BECAUSE...
THERE'S A CRIMINAL AMONG US.
MURMUR
?!?!

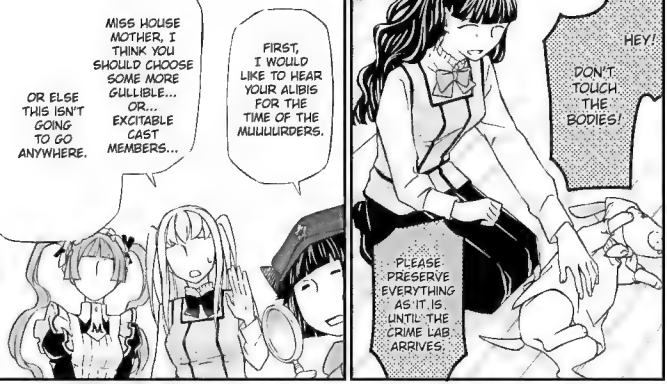
Prayer63
Police Detective☆Cat-Eared God


CURRENT STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT SHIDOU MARIYA
FORMER STUDENT COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT NATSURU MAKI
MARIYA'S CARETAKER SHINOUJI MATSURIKA
FORMER STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT SHIKI AYARI

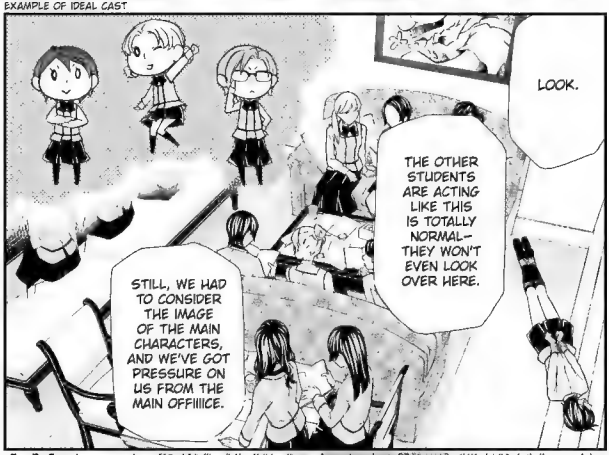
THE REASON I ASKED ALL OF YOU TO GATHER HERE IS BECAUSE...
AAAAND...
...THERE IS A CRIMINAL AMONG US.

WHA...
WHAT CRIMINAL?
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY NEED FOR AN EXPLANATION.

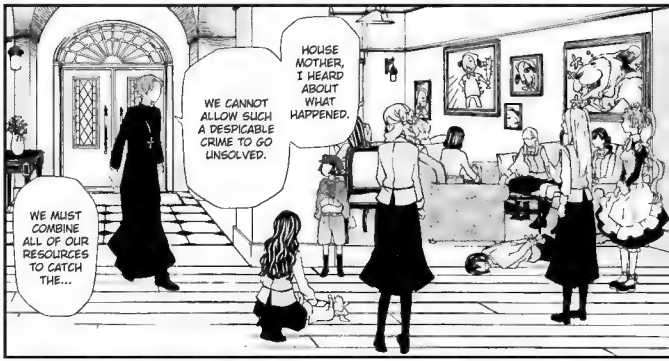
FIRST, THE HOMICIDE OF YONAKUNI-SAN!
"HOMI" CIDE...?
STRETCH
びー
THUMP
ガバ
SECOND, THE HOMICIDE OF MIYAMAE KANAKO-SAAAN!
MMPH!
MMPHHH-RRR?!
HOMI "CIDE"...?
ガーン
What kind of game is this...?
Ummm
UM... MISS HOUSE MOTHER...?
THIS IS ALL SO SUDDEN THAT AYARI-SAN IS STARTING TO GET FLUSTERED...
THIS PROVES SHE'S A POLICE OFFICER.
OH... IS THAT WHAT WE'RE GOING WITH...?
SHE WAS THE FIRST TO DISCOVER THE BODIES SO THAT IS COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND-ABLE.
Yes! I caaaaan.
POLICE DETECTIVE ☆ CAT-EARED GOD CAN SOLVE ANY CRIME!

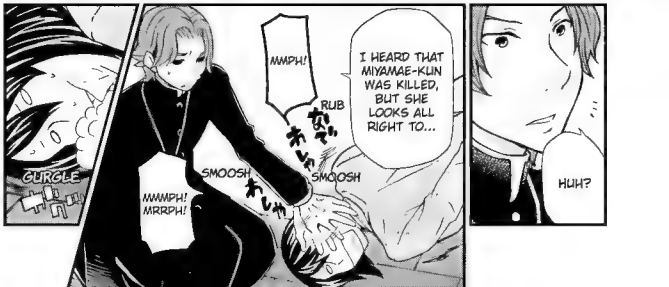

HEY!
DON'T TOUCH THE BODIES!
PLEASE PRESERVE EVERYTHING AS IT IS UNTIL THE CRIME LAB ARRIVES.
FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR ALIBIS FOR THE TIME OF THE MUUUURDERS.
MISS HOUSE MOTHER, I THINK YOU SHOULD CHOOSE SOME MORE GULLIBLE... OR... EXCITABLE CAST MEMBERS...
OR ELSE THIS ISN'T GOING TO GO ANYWHERE.

EXAMPLE OF IDEAL CAST


LOOK.
THE OTHER STUDENTS ARE ACTING LIKE THIS IS TOTALLY NORMAL— THEY WON'T EVEN LOOK OVER HERE.
STILL, WE HAD TO CONSIDER THE IMAGE OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS, AND WE'VE GOT PRESSURE ON US FROM THE MAIN OFFIIICE.

A GULLIBLE PERSON HAS ARRIVED!!
THE THIRD VICTIM HAS ARRIVED, BEAR-KILLER TOUICHIROU.
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ALREADY GOT CHARACTER BACKGROUNDS SET UP, TOO.
I CANNOT BELIEVE SOMETHING SO TRAGIC AS A MURDER COULD HAPPEN ON THESE HOLY GROUNDS OF LEARNING!
HOW COULD I HAVE ALLOWED SUCH AN AWFUL THING TO HAPPEN ON MY WATCH...?!


HOUSE MOTHER, I HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
WE CANNOT ALLOW SUCH A DESPICABLE CRIME TO GO UNSOLVED.
WE MUST COMBINE ALL OF OUR RESOURCES TO CATCH THE...


I HEARD THAT MIYAMAE-KUN WAS KILLED, BUT SHE LOOKS ALL RIGHT TO...
MMPH!
RUB
SMOOSH
SMOOSH
MMMPH! MRRPH!
GURGLE
HUH?

AAAARRNNN-GGGGHAAAAA-MPPHHHH...
SHE HAS NO PULSE!
MIYAMAE-KUN!! WHO DID THIS TERRIBLE THING TO YOU?!
IT-IS A TRULY TRAGIC INCIDENT.

IT WILL TAKE POLICE SUPPORT A WHILE TO MAKE IT OUT TO THIS FAR-OFF ISLAND.
NOW WE ARE COMPLETELY AT THE WHIM OF THE MURDERER...
...FAR-OFF ISLAND?

キ"
CREAK
イ・・・

FWOOOOSH
SLOSH
SLOSH
THIS IS THE REAL DEAL...
SHE'S TAKING HER GAME SERIOUSLY THIS TIME.
IT'S VERY RUDE TO CALL THIS A GAME. TWO PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MULLLLURDERED.
OH... YES... RIGHT...

FLUTTER
THAT'S HOW MUCH OF A BEAR KILLER TOUICHIROU IS!
NO MATTER HOW EVIL AND VIOLENT THE MURDERER MAY BE, WE CAN FEEL SAFE AS LONG AS BEAR-KILLER TOUICHIROU IS AROUND.
I'M IMPRESSED YOU SKIPPED OVER THE "SOON-TO-BE THIRD VICTIM" PART.
BY THE WAY, HOUSE MOTHER, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "BEAR-KILLER"... ?
BUT PLEASE, DO NOT PANIC.
I, POLICE DETECTIVE ☆ CAT-EARED GOD, AND SOON-TO-BE THIRD VICTIM BEAR-KILLER TOUICHIROU, ARE BY YOUR SIDES.
THE TIME LINE IS ALL MESSED UP.
...WAS GOING TO BE MURDERED...
IN THIS WAY, NO ONE WAS ABLE TO PREDICT THAT SOON, THAT VERY SAME BEAR KILLER...
UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ASSUME THAT THE MURDERER IS AMONG US.
FIVE PEOPLE...?
Now then.
WE ARE THE ONLY FIVE PEOPLE LEFT IN THIS LOCKED-UP MANSION.

THE THREE VICTIMS...
THEY ALL SEEM TO HAVE BEEN STABBED BY THE SAME BLUNT WEAPON.
STABBED BY A BLUNT WEAPON...?
HM? ARE WE ALREADY SAYING THAT THE BEAR-KILLER IS DEAD?
THE BEAR-KILLER...?!
I HAD HEARD HE'S BEEN DROWNING HIMSELF IN ALCOHOL AND WOMEN RECENTLY, BUT I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D BE DONE IN BY A SINGLE BLOW...!
WHY DID THE BEAR-KILLER COME ALL THE WAY OUT TO THIS ISLAND JUST TO GET BEAR-KILLED?
IT APPEARS YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OUT HIS STORYLINE A LITTLE BIT BETTER.
ALSO, IN THE LAST FEW PAGES AYARI-SAMA HAS GONE TO ANSWER OTHER STUDENTS' QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT WILL BE ON THE TEST.
WHAT?! A FOURTH VICTIM?!

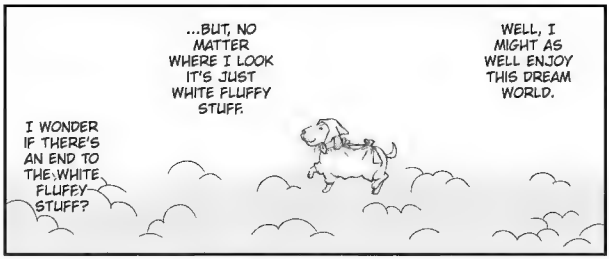
Sigh...
THIS SCRIPT IS FULL OF HOLES, THERE'S NO CHANCE OF WINNING THE BIG AWARD NOOOOOW.
BIG AWARD?
DON'T ASK US...
...BUT HE'S ALREADY DEAD, SO WHAT SHOULD WE DOOOOOO?
NOW IS ABOUT THE TIME WHEN THE BEAR-KILLER SHOUTS, "I WILL NOT REMAIN HERE WITH A MURDERER! I'M GOING TO MY ROOM!" AND STOMPS OUT...

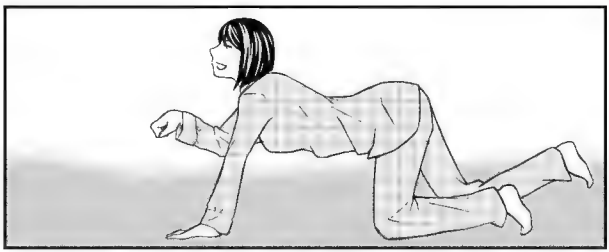
I WAS AIMING TO DEBUT BY WINNING THE NEW MYSTERY FICTION AWARD, WHICH WOULD THEN IMMEDIATELY GET TURNED INTO A MOVIE, WHICH WOULD THEN ALLOW ME TO TRAVEL TO HAWAIIIIII...
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO HAVE TO FIX UP THE PLOT.
MY BEAR-KILLER CAN'T EVEN KILL A BEAR...

WELL, IT'S ALMOST DINNER TIME SO LET'S CALL AN END TO THIS.
FATHER, THIS IS A GIRL'S DORMITORY.
MEN ARE NOT ALLOWED. YOU WILL HAVE TO LEEEEEEAVE.
HUH? BUT WHAT ABOUT MIYAMAE-KUN'S MURDER AND THE BEAR-KILLER...?
STOP SAYING STUPID THINGS AND GET OUT OF HEEEEERE.
AME NO KISAKI GIRLS' DORMITORY NUMBER TWO
SLOOSH
SLOSH
SLOSH

MARIA HOLIC

IT'S BEEN ABOUT HALF A YEAR SINCE I TRANSFERRED TO AME NO KISAKI.
TODAY, I WILL ONCE AGAIN THROW MYSELF INTO LOVE AND MY STUDIES!★
HELLO, I AM MIYAMAE KANAKO.
Spin-Out
A Dog's Life
IT APPEARS THAT I HAVE BECOME SOMETHING LIKE A DOG.
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN (WHICH I LEFT OUT EARLIER)...
THE GROUND FEELS KIND OF FLUFFY. DEFINITELY A DREAM.
OH, I GET IT. THIS IS A DREAM.
...HUH?
WHAT ARE THESE BULBOUS THINGS? ARE THESE DOG PAWS?
IT'S A BIT TOO REALISTIC FOR A STUFFED ANIMAL!..


I WONDER IF THERE'S AN END TO THE WHITE FLUFFY STUFF?
...BUT, NO MATTER WHERE I LOOK IT'S JUST WHITE FLUFFY STUFF.
WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL ENJOY THIS DREAM WORLD.



...WHAT IS THAT IDIOT DOING?

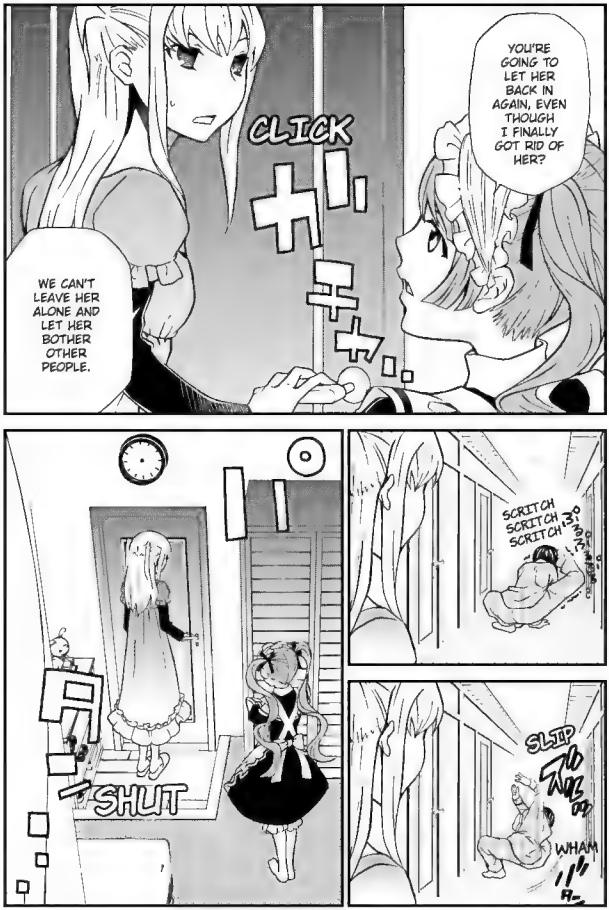
THAT'S STRANGE, THERE'S NOTHING HERE.
I FEEL LIKE I JUST HIT SOMETHING ...
OW!
HELP ME! I CAN'T MOVE!!?
THIS IS STRANGE! I'M SURROUNDED BY SOME SORT OF INVISIBLE WALLS.
WHAA?
HUH?
.....
FLAIL
FLAIL
FLAIL
KOCK

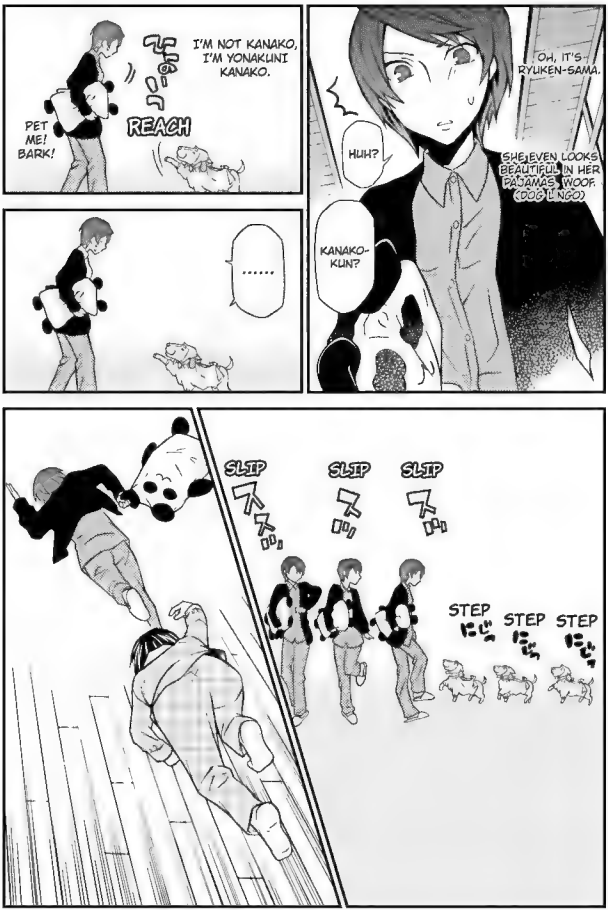
THIS IS SUSPICIOUS. DEFINITELY SUSPICIOUS.
WHERE DID A DOOR SUDDENLY APPEAR FROM...?
FWOOOOOOSH
A DOOR?
CREAK

BRING IT ON...!
I'M SCARED. BUT IF I DON'T LEAVE, NOTHING CAN BEGIN.
BUT THERE'S A NEW WORLD WAITING FOR ME ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS DOOR...

SHUT
MATSURIKA... WHY DID YOU RELEASE THAT THING INTO THE WILD?
ALL I CAN SAY IS...
"MARIYA-CHAN, YOU CAN'T LOOK AFTER IT, CAN YOU?" THAT'S ALL.
LEAP
TO A NEW WORLD OF ADVENTURE...!!

I KNEW THIS WAS A DREAM. I DON'T MIND THIS SORT OF THING...
I'VE TURNED INTO YONAKUNI-SAN.
I GET IT NOW.
IT'S CALLED "IMAGE TRAINING"!
I'LL PRACTICE BEING A DOG TO MAKE IT FEEL LEGIT.
SHAKE.
BEG.


YOU'RE GOING TO LET HER BACK IN AGAIN, EVEN THOUGH I FINALLY GOT RID OF HER?
CLICK
ガチャ..
WE CAN'T LEAVE HER ALONE AND LET HER BOTHER OTHER PEOPLE.
SCRITCH SCRITCH SCRITCH
SLIP
WHAM
SHUT


I'M NOT KANAKO, I'M YONAKUNI KANAKO.
REACH
PET ME! BARK!
.....
OH, IT'S RYUKEN-SAMA.
SHE EVEN LOOKS BEAUTIFUL IN HER PAJAMAS. WOOF. (COUGH, HACK)
HUH?
KANAKO-KUN?
SLIP
SLIP
SLIP
STEP
STEP
STEP

STRETCH
ん
MMM, MORNING ALREADY?
WEIRD, I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T RESTED AT ALL.
TWEET
TWEET
AAAHHH!
...AND MY HANDS AND KNEES ARE DIRTY...
AND FOR SOME REASON ALL OF MY JOINTS HURT...
.....
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!!
YOU GUYS WERE MESSING WITH ME IN MY SLEEP, WEREN'T YOU?!

MARIA HOLIC

Prayer64
The Tale of October 16th Part ①

FATHER KANAE...
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

OH, RIGHT, I COMPLETELY FORGOT.
HERE'S MY PRESENT.
IT'S MY OWN HOMEMADE DEMI-GLACE SAUCE.
AND I'VE MADE MY OWN BÉCHAMEL SAUCE!
THANK YOU.
AND HERE'S MY AMERICAN SAUCE!

HUH?
YOU DIDN'T REALLY FORGET, DID YOU, FATHER?
TODAY IS OCTOBER 16TH!
IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

STOP IT, DON'T MAKE US SAY SOMETHING SO EMBARRASSING!
Eeeeee!!
DASH
WA-
WAIT...
THESE ARE ALL SAUCES WE MADE BY BOILING THE ROASTED BONES OF CALVES, MIXING MELTED BUTTER AND FLOUR SO THAT THEY DON'T BURN, AND MAKING STOCK FROM SHRIMP SHELLS.
WHY DID YOU ALL MAKE SAUCE?
DOES...
DOES THAT IMPLY THAT THE MEANING OF "SAUCE" IS SOMETHING EMBARRASSING?

BUT MY BELOVED STUDENTS WOULDN'T BE SO RUDE AS TO MAKE A PUN TO CELEBRATE SOMEONE'S BIRTHDAY.
IF BY "SAUCE" THEY MEAN "BROTH" THEN IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IT'S SOME SORT OF PUN, LIKE "HAPPY BROTHDAY"...
FATHER KANAE! FATHER KANAE TOUICHIROU!

GOOD MORNING, FATHER KANAE TOUICHIROU.
TODAY'S YOUR BIRTHDAY, CORRECT? HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
OH, THANK YOU.

No way, right?
なーんて
BY THE WAY, FATHER, COULD IT BE...
...THAT YOUR NAME, TOU (TEN) ICHI (ONE) ROU (SIX) IS A PUN ON OCTOBER 16TH... ?
HEY... CHIFUMI...!

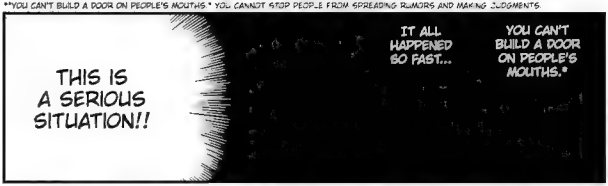
MARIA HOLIC

Prayer65
The Tale of October 16th
Part ②

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
IS YOUR NAME TOUICHIROU BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN ON OCTOBER 16TH?
ARE YOU TOUICHIROU BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN ON OCTOBER 16TH?
ARE YOU TOUICHIROU BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN ON OCTOBER 16TH?
I GET IT, YOU'RE TOUICHIROU BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN ON OCTOBER 16TH.

THE "?" HAS DISAPPEARED, AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE IT BECOMES AN UNDENIABLE TRUTH THAT DOESN'T NEED QUESTIONING...
IN JUST THE TIMEFRAME OF HOMEROOM PERIOD, "ARE YOU?" HAS CHANGED TO "YOU ARE."
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

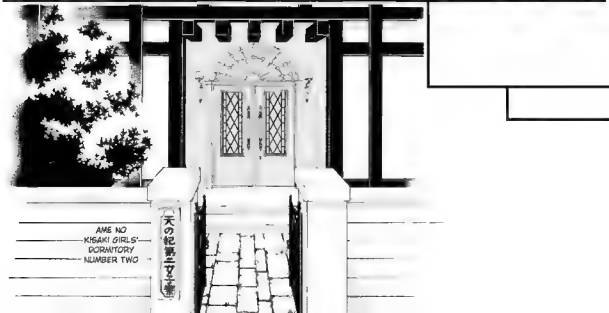
**YOU CAN'T BUILD A DOOR ON PEOPLE'S MOUTHS.* YOU CANNOT STOP PEOPLE FROM SPREADING RUMORS AND MAKING JUDGMENTS.



FLUTTER
I'M A LITTLE LATE BECAUSE I WAS FINISHING UP MY HOMEWORK.
OH WELL, AT THIS RATE I SHOULD STILL MAKE IT TO HOMEROOM...
It's everyone else who gets to school too early.

?!
FWOMP
BWUH?!
WHA-WHA-WHA-WHA-WHAT'S GOING ON?!

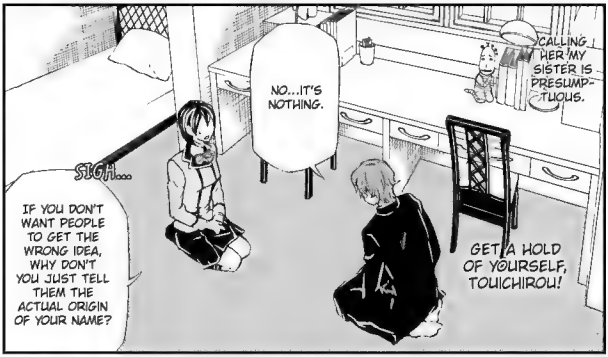
NO, STOP, LET ME DOWN, SAVE MEEEE!!


AME NO KISAKI GIRLS' DORMITORY NUMBER TWO
天の如月女子寮第二

EXCUSE ME?
AT THIS RATE, THE ORIGIN OF MY NAME WILL CRYSTALLIZE INTO A PUN ON THE DATE I WAS BORN.
.....
.....
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON...?
DING
PUN...?
OOOH!!
I GET IT, TEN ONE SIX, "TOU" "ICHI" "ROU"!
SLAP
THAT'S A GOOD ONE! THAT'S HILARI-

DRIP
I'M REALLY SORRY.
DRIP
DRIP

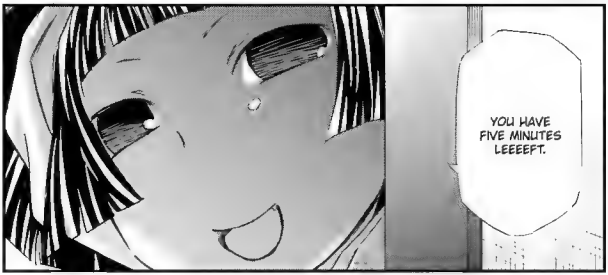
DAMN!
RIGHT NOW, THE NAME THAT MY DECEASED MAMAN GAVE ME...
...THE NAME MY MAMAN PUT ALL HER HOPES INTO, IS BEING DISGRACED AS A SIMPLE PUN.
A MOTHER'S DISHONOR IS HER CHILD'S DISHONOR.
LET US OVERCOME THIS UNFORE-SEEN DISASTER TOGETHER, AS SIBLINGS.
SIBLINGS?
EVEN IF I LOOK LIKE MIYAMAE-KUN'S DECEASED BROTHER...
IT WAS BY MY OWN SELFISH WILL THAT I DECIDED TO TAKE HER BROTHER'S PLACE AND WATCH OVER HER.

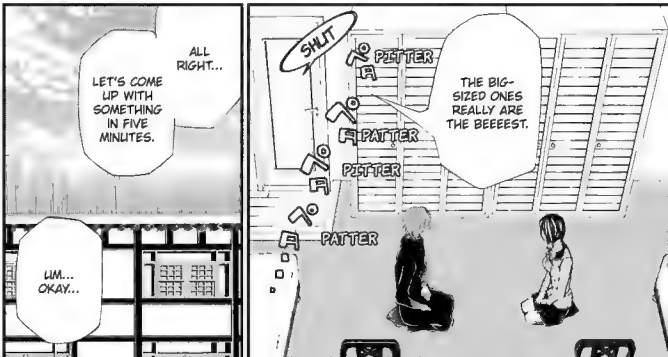

CALLING HER MY SISTER IS PRESUMPTUOUS.
NO...IT'S NOTHING.
SIGH...
IF YOU DON'T WANT PEOPLE TO GET THE WRONG IDEA, WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELL THEM THE ACTUAL ORIGIN OF YOUR NAME?
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF, TOUICHIROU!

THAT WOULD BE BEST, BUT I DO NOT KNOW THE TRUE ORIGIN.
HOLD ON, REALLY?
SO IN ALL HONESTY YOUR NAME ACTUALLY COULD JUST BE A.....

DRIP
I'M REALLY SORRY.
DRIP
DRIP

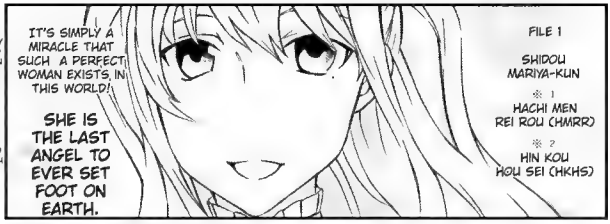
CREAK
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOMEROOM WILL BE STARTING SOON, SO WE REALLY SHOULD BE GETTING TO SCHOOL...
WOW... SO YOU'RE JUST GONNA COME OUT AND ANNOUNCE THAT YOU'RE GONNA LIE...
SO I WAS THINKING OF COMING UP WITH SOME WONDERFUL MEANING THAT IS HIDDEN IN THE NAME TOUICHIROU...


YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES LEEEEFT.


ALL RIGHT...
LET'S COME UP WITH SOMETHING IN FIVE MINUTES.
UM... OKAY...
SHUT
PATTER
PATTER
PATTER
PATTER
THE BIG-SIZED ONES REALLY ARE THE BEEEEST.

SO, LET'S THINK OF THIS FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.
IF YOU WERE A FATHER, WHAT SORT OF NAME WOULD YOU WANT TO GIVE YOUR CHILD?
MRPH?!
WELL, EVERYONE SHOULD DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES WHAT NAME TO CHOOSE.
JUST GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE.
OKAY, WELL...
LET'S SEE...
MAYBE SOMETHING THAT COMES FROM BOTH MYSELF AND MY PARTNER'S NAMES...
PARTNER?!

※1 HMRR: A BEAUTY WITH NO FLAWS IN SIGHT. A WOMAN ANYONE COULD GET ALONG WITH SHOULD THEY GO OUT WITH HER.


IT'S SIMPLY A MIRACLE THAT SUCH A PERFECT WOMAN EXISTS IN THIS WORLD!
SHE IS THE LAST ANGEL TO EVER SET FOOT ON EARTH.
FILE 1
SHIDOU MARIYA-KUN
※1 HACHI MEN REI ROU (HMRR)
※2 HIN KOU HOU SEI (HKHS)

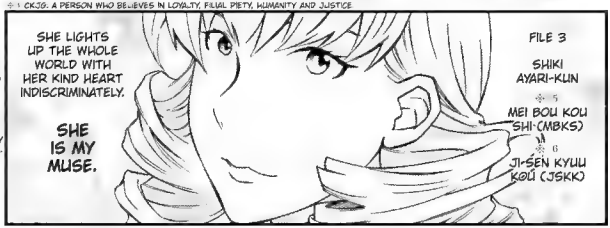
※2 HKHS: A PERSON WHO IS OF PURE THOUGHT AND ACTION

※3 ISSK: A WOMAN WHOSE SMILE IS PRICELESS, BECAUSE SHE IS SIMPLY THAT BEAUTIFUL.

SHE IS SIMPLY A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER WAITING TO SHINE BEHIND SHIDOU-KUN.
SHE IS MY ARTEMIS.
FILE 2
SHINOUJI MATSURIKA-KUN
※3 I SHOU SEN KIN (ISSK)
※4 CHUU KOU JIN GI (CKJG)

※4 CKJG: A PERSON WHO BELIEVES IN LOYALTY, FILIAL PIETY, HUMANITY AND JUSTICE

※5 MBKS: A WOMAN WITH BRIGHT EYES AND PEARL-WHITE TEETH. HER FACE IS ALSO PERFECTLY BALANCED.


SHE LIGHTS UP THE WHOLE WORLD WITH HER KIND HEART INDISCRIMINATELY.
SHE IS MY MUSE.
FILE 3
SHIKI AYARI-KUN
※5 MEI BOU KOU SHI (MBKS)
※6 JI SEN KYUU KOU (JSKK)

※6 JSKK: A WOMAN WHO ACTS ON HER OWN PRINCIPLES AND NEVER HESITATES

※7 KGNH: A FLOWER THAT CAN SPEAK, AKA A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.

SHE IS A GIRL WHO IS NOT ONLY BEAUTIFUL BUT ALSO HAS BACKBONE!
SHE IS MY NIGHT-INGALE.
FILE 4
NATSURU MAKI-KUN
※7 KAI GO NO HANA (KGNH)
※8 SEI REN KA KIN (SRKK)

※8 SRKK: A PERSON OF PURE HEART WITH VERY FEW PERSONAL DESIRES. A PERSON WHO ALWAYS WORKS THEIR HARDEST

SHIMMER
AND, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I DON'T WANT IT TO HAPPEN, I HAVE TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY THAT I MAY END UP WITH AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT WOMAN...
SHIMMER
WHICH ONE?!
WHICH ANGEL HAVE I CRYSTALLIZED MY LOVE WITH?!
FLINCH
NOOOOOO-OOOOOO !!!
SHIZU-KUN IS A BOY! BUT HE'S SO...HE'S SO...!!!
I SEE, THE SYSTEM OF TAKING ONE CHARACTER FROM EACH PARENT.
MAYBE WE CAN USE THAT.
WAIT, TOUICHIROU, CALM DOWN!! YOU'RE NOT EVEN DATING ANY OF THEM!

YOSHIO.
I SEE. LET'S THINK OF SOME-THING ELSE.
WHAT IS YOUR FATHER'S NAME?
HOW ABOUT YOUR NAME AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR SOMETHING ELSE?
Substitute...
LIKE, AIRA BUYUU CI (I LOVE YOU)... OR GAABERA (GARBERA)... OR DORAGON (DRAGON)?
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE ALL PUNK NAMES FROM THE 70S?
HOW ABOUT WE TRY WRITING TOUICHIROU IN ENGLISH AND...
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
TO ICHIRO
THIS!
OH!

MAYBE... YOUR REAL FATHER?
UMMM...
...WHO IS THIS ICHIRO FELLOW?
AND...
.....

I'M REALLY SORRY.
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP

GOOD MORNING, FATHER KANAE.
ALL RIGHT, THEN HOW ABOUT THIS.
YOU WERE NAMED AFTER SOMEONE WHO HELPED OUT YOUR FAMILY A LOT IN THE PAST.
HMM.
CLOSE! I GIVE IT 70 POINTS.
WHAT KIND OF NERVE DO YOU HAVE TO GRADE ME?!
TIME'S UP, WE HAVE TO GET TO SCHOOL!

I HEAR IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY. HAPPY BIRTHDAY.
I HEARD A RUMOR FROM THE OTHER STUDENTS...
...THAT YOUR NAME IS TOUICHIROU BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN ON OCTOBER 16TH...
NO, THAT IS...
THAT'S A WONDERFUL MEANING.
HUH?
!
MY MUSE!
EXCUSE ME?
I-I MEAN, SHIKI AYARI-KUN.

I CAN FEEL THE JOY AND CELEBRATION FELT FOR THE DAY YOU WERE BORN.
IT IS A BEAUTIFUL NAME, FULL OF LOVE.

SHIIIIINE
ぱぁぁぁ
あぁぁ

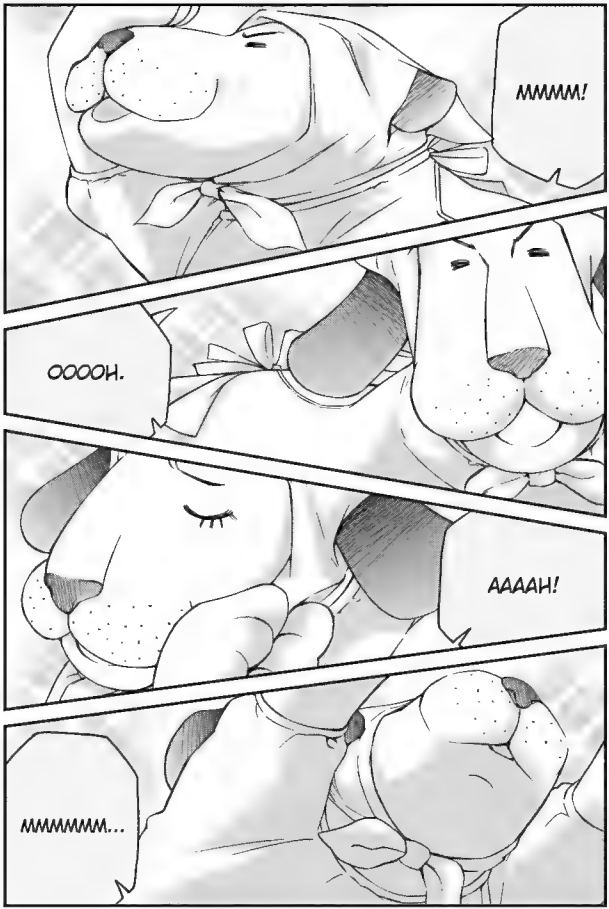
YES.
I AM THANKFUL TO MY MOTHER FOR GIVING ME SUCH A WONDERFUL NAME.
WHAAAAA?!

OH.
FORGETTING THAT FOR A MOMENT, I WONDER WHAT THE ORIGIN OF YOUR NAME IS, KANAKO.
STEP
MAYBE IT'S...
...A SUBSTITUTE FOR "BAKANAKO" (STUPID CHILD).
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? ARE YOU FREAKING KIDDING ME?!
DON'T BE THANKFUL TO YOUR DAMN MOTHER AFTER SPENDING ALL MORNING WASTING MY PRECIOUS TIME! DAMMIT!!
AND NOW YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DECIDED THAT THE 10-1-6 THEORY IS TRUE? ARE YOU STUPID?!

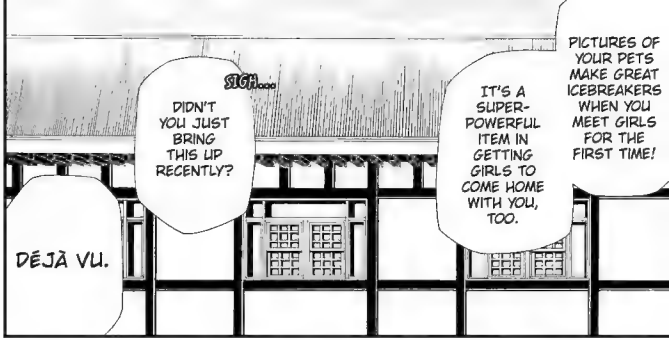
WHA?!
HOW RUDE, DON'T YOU...
OH! THAT'S IT!
MY MOTHER TOOK THE "BA" FROM "BA-KANAKO"...
...SO THAT I WOULDN'T BECOME A STUPID CHILD!
...HUH?
THAT'S VERY PHILO-SOPHICAL.
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, THANK YOU FOR THE WONDERFUL NAME.
SHE'S SO NICE! MY MOTHER IN HEAVEN IS SO NICE!
...I SEE. I'M HAPPY FOR YOU...
TODAY, THE DAY I REALIZED YOUR KINDNESS...
...IS ANOTHER BIRTHDAY FOR ME.

MARIA HOLIC²

Prayer66
I Want to Raise a Pet


MMMM!
OOOOH.
AAAAH!
MMMMMM...

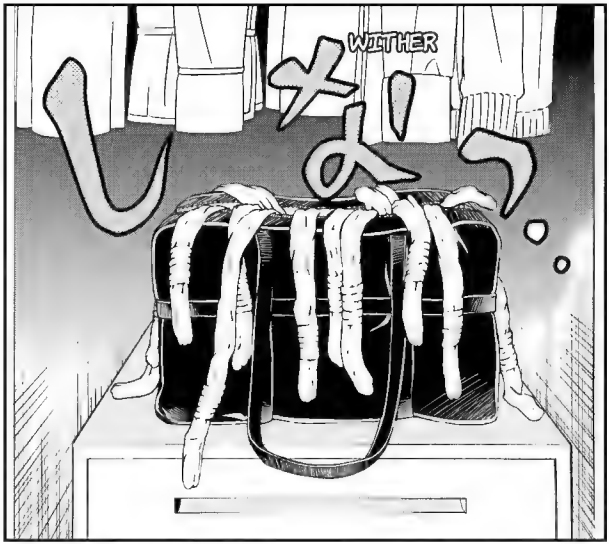
ちら～GLANCE
MY STRATEGY IS PERFECT, BUT WITH A WEAK WEAPON LIKE THIS, I'M LACKING IN ATTACK POWER...
STOCKS ARE AT 240... HMM...
THEY'RE ALL A LITTLE BIT OFF...
I WONDER IF THE SUBJECT IS THE PROBLEM.
ちら～GLANCE
ENNUI...
...I GOT KANAKO BACTERIA ON IT...
HEY! COME ON, YOU'RE ACTUALLY CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, AREN'T YOU?
THIS IS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BULLYING!!
I WANT TO RAISE MY KANAKO STOCKS TOO!
STAB
GYAAH!


DÉJÀ VU.
DIDN'T YOU JUST BRING THIS UP RECENTLY?
SIGHoooo
IT'S A SUPER-POWERFUL ITEM IN GETTING GIRLS TO COME HOME WITH YOU, TOO.
PICTURES OF YOUR PETS MAKE GREAT ICEBREAKERS WHEN YOU MEET GIRLS FOR THE FIRST TIME!

WHAT IS THAT GROSSLY-TITLED BOOK?
IS THAT THE ORIGIN OF YOUR SICK VIEWS ON LOVE AND WOMEN?
YOUR DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN IS CRYING.
A NEW ME THAT THE LADIES LOVE!
BUT KNOWING MY LIMITS AND TAKING WHATEVER GOOD ADVICE I CAN WILL HELP MAKE A NEW ME!!
TA DA!
OF COURSE, NOT EVEN I THINK THAT I CAN BECOME A POPULAR BEAUTY BY JUST FOLLOWING A BOOK LIKE THIS.
MEET WOMEN!
BE POPULAR!
GET DOWN!

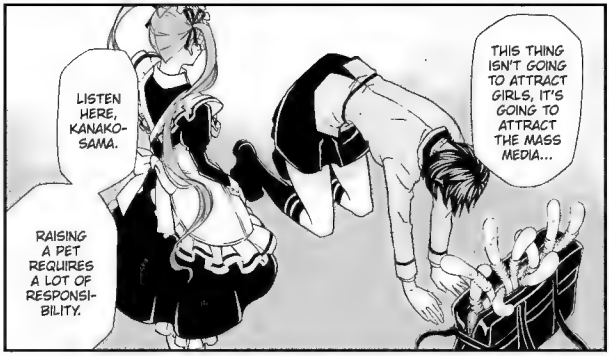
I'M SORRY, I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THE TWISTS AND TURNS OF YOUR LOGIC.
IN ORDER TO DO THAT, I WANT A PET.
I WANT TO BE POPULAR.

HUH?
CLACK
A PET.
...YOU ALREADY HAVE ONE.
GASP
!!
UMM...
UHHH...
DASH


WITHER
しおっ。。

SHE HAD FORGOTTEN ITS EXISTENCE.
NOOOOOOOO! XXXXXXX!! (I WANT TO CALL OUT ITS NAME, BUT I NEVER NAMED IT. ALSO, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT IT IS.)
MY, MY...
AND THEY SAY YOU SHOULD TREAT LIFE PRECIOUSLY ...

ちゃ
MATSURIKA-SAN?
CLUB
ぷん。。
JUMP
ビヨヨヨ
ジャバー
CWOOOOOSH
ZZZZZP
THREE MINUTES LATER.
はぁ
TA-DAH!
あぁ
あぁぁ

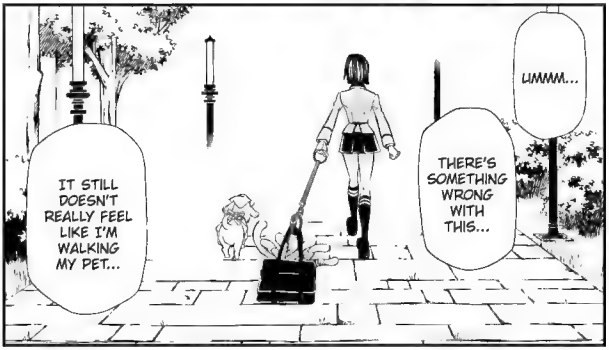

LISTEN HERE, KANAKO-SAMA.
RAISING A PET REQUIRES A LOT OF RESPONSI-BILITY.
THIS THING ISN'T GOING TO ATTRACT GIRLS, IT'S GOING TO ATTRACT THE MASS MEDIA...

YOU CAN'T JUST THROW IT AWAY ONCE YOU GET TIRED OF TAKING CARE OF IT.
YOU DON'T JUST NEED LOVE, BUT PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE AS WELL.
YOU HAVE TO FEED IT EVERY DAY, TAKE CARE OF IT, WALK IT, TRAIN IT...

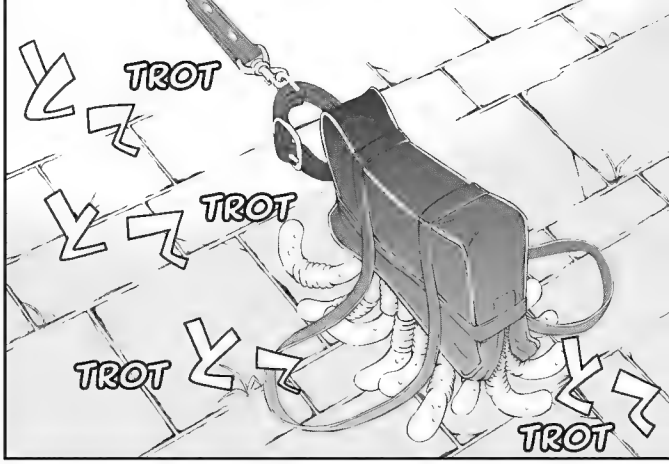
BWUH?
I WILL HAVE YOU PRACTICE TAKING CARE OF YOUR PET ALL DAY TODAY.

NO YOU DON'T.
I KNOW THAT...

DRAG
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG


IT STILL DOESN'T REALLY FEEL LIKE I'M WALKING MY PET...
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS...
UMMM...

GASP
I JUST HAVE AN IMAGE OF WALKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH MY PET...
AH! NO, I DON'T MEAN IT'S YOUR FAULT.
DROOP


TROT
TROT
TROT
TROT

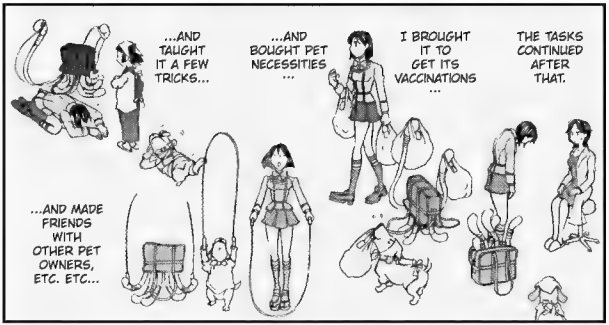
EITHER WAY, I'M JUST GOING TO END UP WONDERING WHY I OBEDIENTLY FOLLOWED MATSURIKA-SAN'S ORDERS...
THERE ARE SOME THINGS IN THIS WORLD THAT YOU JUST CAN'T DETERMINE WRONG OR RIGHT FROM.
I'M JUST GOING TO STOP THINKING ABOUT IT SO HARD.
.....

OH.
SPEAKING OF MATSURIKA-SAN, SHE GAVE ME A "PET CARE LIST."
FLIP
Let's see...
HMM...TAKE IT FOR A WALK, CLEAN UP AFTER IT...
GO FOR A WALK
CLEAN UP AFTER IT
CLEAN UP... HUH?
BUT YOU DON'T POOP OR ANYTHING ...
HUH? BWUH?! WA-WA-WAIT, HOLD ON, ARE YOU...
...ARE YOU HAVING A BABY?! IS IT A BABY?!
CLUNK
RATTLE
ROLL
RATTLE

A FRIS...
...BEE ...?
FWOOSH
CHOMP
SLITHER
SWING
CATCH

CLEAN UP AFTER IT
PLAY WITH A FRISBEE
.....
GLANCE

FINISHED...

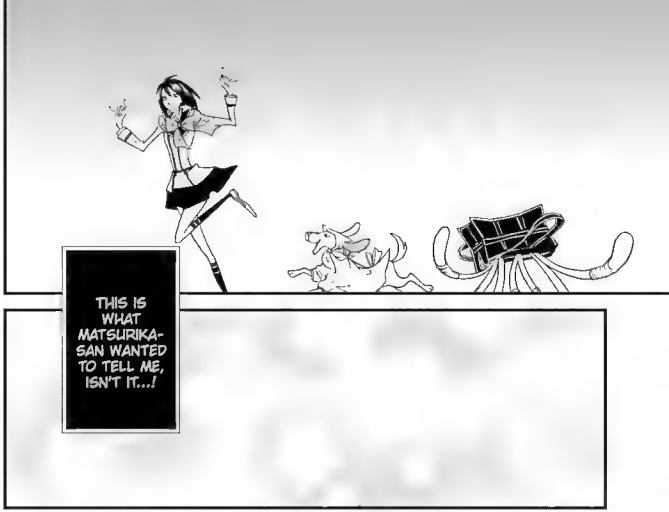

...AND TAUGHT IT A FEW TRICKS...
...AND BOUGHT PET NECESSITIES ...
I BROUGHT IT TO GET ITS VACCINATIONS ...
THE TASKS CONTINUED AFTER THAT.
...AND MADE FRIENDS WITH OTHER PET OWNERS, ETC. ETC...

AND THEN...
I WONDER WHAT'S NEXT...?
I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE THINKING I'M JUST TALKING TO MYSELF, SO LET'S FINISH THIS UP QUICKLY.
FWUMP
GIVE IT FOOD
GIVE IT FOOD...

WHAT DO YOU EAT?
SLIDE

YOU'RE SO NICE...
OPEN
IT TASTES LIKE THE FOOD MOM USED TO MAKE...
Huh?
A LUNCH BOX?!
DID YOU MAKE THIS, TENTACLE-CHAN?!

DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
I FEEL LIKE I'M REALLY THE ONE BEING TAKEN CARE OF HERE, BUT...
I HEAR THAT CHILDREN ARE OFTEN THE ONES TEACHING THEIR PARENTS, SO I'M OKAY WITH THIS.
PHEW...
OH... A RAINBOW...
I'M HAPPY...
THE WORLD IS SPARKLING...
THESE OVER-WHELMING FEELINGS... THIS IS THE JOY OF HAVING A PET...


THIS IS WHAT MATSURIKA-SAN WANTED TO TELL ME, ISN'T IT...!

MARIA HOLIC

MARIA HOLIC²

EXTRA
Sachi's Star Money

A GIRL WITHOUT ANY RELATIVES WAS WALKING ALONE IN A FIELD.

ALL SHE OWNED WAS THE CLOTHES ON HER BACK AND A SMALL PIECE OF BREAD.

A POOR MAN CALLED OUT TO HER...

"GIVE ME SOMETHING TO EAT."

SO SHE GAVE THE MAN THE PIECE OF BREAD SHE WAS HOLDING.

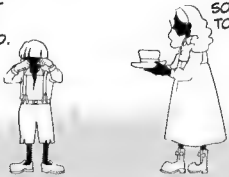
"MAY GOD PROTECT YOU."

A LITTLE FURTHER ALONG THE WAY, SHE MET A SMALL CHILD CRYING. HE SAID...

"MY HEAD IS COLD. GIVE ME SOMETHING TO WEAR."

THE GIRL GAVE THE CHILD THE HAT FROM HER HEAD.

"MAY GOD PROTECT YOU."



WHEN SHE WENT A LITTLE BIT FURTHER, SHE MET A SHIVERING CHILD WHO HAD NO JACKET TO WEAR.

"GIVE ME YOUR JACKET."

SO THE LITTLE GIRL TOOK OFF HER JACKET AND PUT IT ON THE CHILD.

"MAY GOD PROTECT YOU."

"MAY GOD PROTECT YOU."
THE GIRL HESITATED FOR A MOMENT, BUT GAVE THE CHILD HER UNDERWEAR
A NAKED CHILD APPROACHED THE GIRL "GIVE ME YOUR UNDERWEAR."
NIGHT WAS APPROACHING, AND EVERYTHING AROUND HER WAS DARK
THE GIRL ARRIVED AT A FOREST

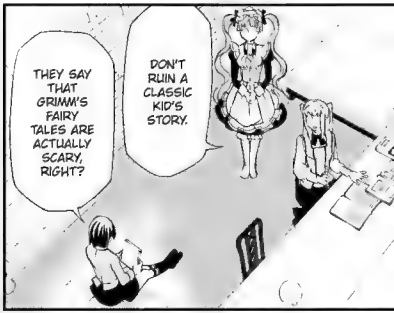
AND THOSE STARS BECAME SPARKLING COINS
STARS BEGAN TO FALL
ONTO THE NAKED BODY OF THE YOUNG GIRL

STAR MONEY
SHUT
...THE END.
THAT WAS GRIMM'S FAIRYTALE, "STAR MONEY."

I CAN UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING UP TO "GIVE ME SOME BREAD," BUT...
...THAT FINAL "GIVE ME YOUR UNDERWEAR ♡" SOUNDS LIKE THE REQUEST OF A PERVERT.

SHE SHOULD'VE BEEN A BIT MORE HESITANT ABOUT GIVING SOMEONE HER CLOTHES, RIGHT?
MAYBE THEY WERE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN SHE THOUGHT?
AND THAT MONEY THAT FELL AT THE END, THAT WAS PAYMENT FOR HER USED PANTIES AND STRIP SHOW, RIGHT?

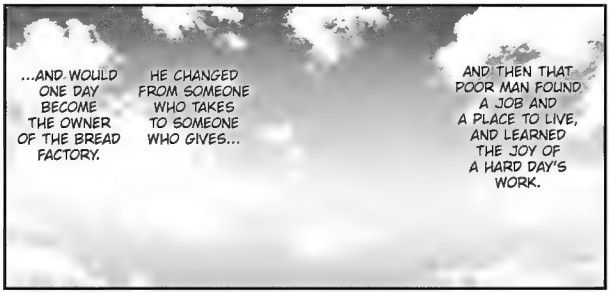
I'M SURE ALL THE KEYWORDS ARE SOME SORT OF SECRET SYMBOLS.
WHAT? HAVE YOU BEEN HANGING AROUND WITH BAD INFLUENCES AGAIN?


THEY SAY THAT GRIMM'S FAIRY TALES ARE ACTUALLY SCARY, RIGHT?
DON'T RUIN A CLASSIC KID'S STORY.

SHE'S TALKING AGAIN.
LIKE, THE FIELD SHE WAS WALKING IN WAS ACTUALLY A BURNT FIELD...
AND THE YOUNG GIRL WHO LOST HER FAMILY AND HER MEMORIES...
...IS FOR SOME REASON HOLDING A FRESHLY BAKED BAGUETTE IN HER HAND.
AS SHE'S STANDING HERE, NOT KNOWING WHAT'S GOING ON, SHE'S APPROACHED BY ROAMING BANDITS.
AND THEN...
...THE ONE LINK TO HER PAST, THE BAGUETTE, IS TAKEN FROM HER...

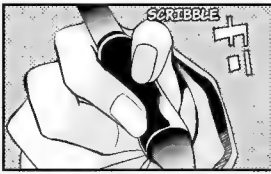
THEY'RE TERRIFY-ING!
GRIMM'S FAIRYTALES ARE TERRIFYING!
HUH.....
FOR EXAMPLE, IF THIS HAD BEEN SACHI-SAN, WHO ALWAYS HAS EVERYTHING ON HAND, THIS SORT OF TRAGEDY WOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED.
YOUNG LADY, PLEASE GIVE ME SOME BREAD.

FWOOOSH
YOU WANT SOME BREAD?
WELL, I JUST SO HAPPEN TO HAVE A BREAD FACTORY!


AND THEN THAT POOR MAN FOUND A JOB AND A PLACE TO LIVE, AND LEARNED THE JOY OF A HARD DAY'S WORK.
HE CHANGED FROM SOMEONE WHO TAKES TO SOMEONE WHO GIVES...
...AND WOULD ONE DAY BECOME THE OWNER OF THE BREAD FACTORY.

FIIINE.
IF YOU'RE ALL SET, GET BACK TO STUDYING FOR YOUR TESTS.
...OKAY THEN.

HEY, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
SLUMP
CRUMBLE

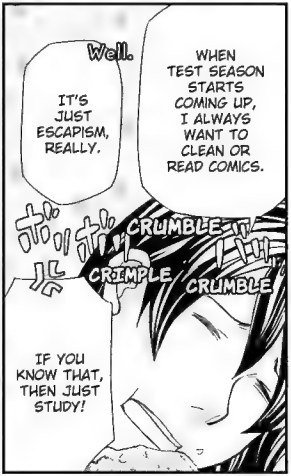

SCRIBBLE

SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE

ROLL

THERE'S NO NEED FOR VIOLENCE, MARIYA-SAN.
DON'T YOU KNOW YOU NEED TO TAKE BREAKS WHEN STUDYING?
THESE COMIC BOOKS ARE INTERESTING, AND THIS RICE CAKE TASTES GOOD, SO...
...MAYBE THESE TESTS DON'T REALLY MATTER AFTER ALL.
YOU WORTHLESS PIECE OF GARBAGE!

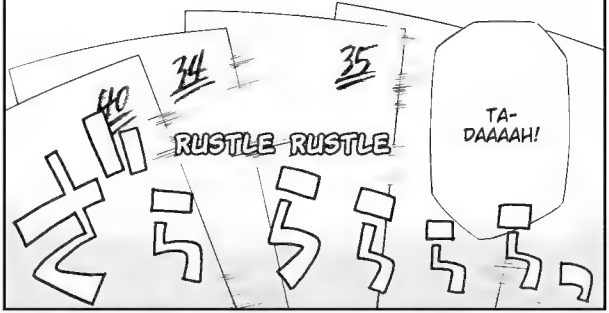
I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GET A GOOD SCORE JUST BECAUSE I PULL ONE ALL-NIGHTER.
STUDYING IS SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO KEEP UP WITH EVERY DAY.
ARE YOU PLANNING ON FAILING WITH THAT ALL-KNOWING LOOK ON YOUR FACE AGAIN?


WHEN TEST SEASON STARTS COMING UP, I ALWAYS WANT TO CLEAN OR READ COMICS.
Well.
IT'S JUST ESCAPISM, REALLY.
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
IF YOU KNOW THAT, THEN JUST STUDY!

WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR YOU TO STAY UP EVEN ONE NIGHT AND DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO RAISE YOUR SCORE A LITTLE?
はぁ Sigh
YOU GUYS ARE GOOD AT STUDYING, BUT YOU DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW ANYTHING.
もぐもぐ CHEW CHEW
ごくん GULP
SLEEP IS KEY FOR MAKING SURE INFORMATION CRYSTALLIZES IN OUR MEMORIES.
EVEN IF I'M ABLE TO AVOID FAILING BY PULLING AN ALL-NIGHTER, IN THE END IT WON'T DO ME ANY GOOD.

THERE'S NO MEANING TO SUCH FLEETING EFFORTS.
WHAT MEANING DOES MY LIFE EVEN HAVE?
...I HAVE THOUGHTS LIKE THAT SOMETIMES.
I'M AT A SENSITIVE PERIOD IN MY LIFE...

IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF THE SCHOOL EXPLODING TOMORROW?!
FWUMP
YOU'RE LIKE A GRADE SCHOOL KID ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.
.....
I KNOW THAT IT'S A VERY SMALL POSSIBILITY.
BUT AS LONG AS IT'S NOT ZERO, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PULL THAT PROBABILITY UP.
ARE YOU PLANNING ON COMMITTING A CRIME?
YOU'RE PROBABLY BETTER OFF BETTING ON THE BENEFITS OF STAYING UP ALL NIGHT STUDYING.
NOOOO, I DON'T WANT TO STUDY, I DON'T WANNA!
AND SO THE TESTS CAME AND WENT, AND THE DAY OF RECKONING ARRIVED...


40
34
35
RUSTLE RUSTLE
TA-DAAAAH!

LOOK! LOOK! THIS IS MY NATURAL ABILITY!
...YOUR NATURAL ABILITY IS PRETTY LOW ACROSS THE BOARD.
BUT PERHAPS THE FACT THAT YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY FAIL ANY OF THEM IS IMPRESSIVE.

I TOLD YOU, THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS ARE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP AND LUCK!
THE ENGLISH ANSWER SHEET?
ENGLISH 英語
LOOK AT THIS MIRACULOUS PIECE OF WORK!
THE JAPANESE TRANSLATION QUESTION WAS "STAR MONEY"!

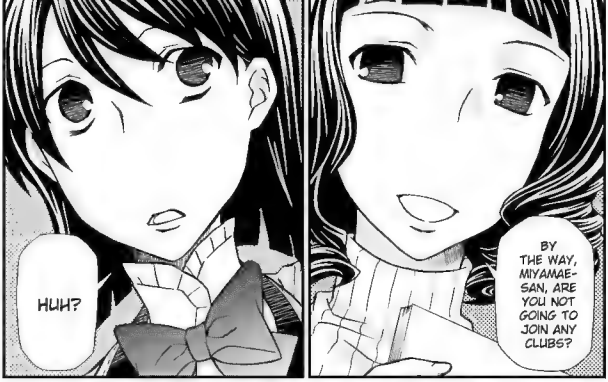
I SEE.
THIS TIME, YOU WERE RIGHT...
HEH
SORRY FOR NAGGING YOU WHEN I WAS WRONG ALL ALONG.
FROM NOW ON WE MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE YOUR JUDGMENTS MORE SERIOUSLY.
MARIYA...
MATSURIKA-SAN...
BUT OF COURSE...
...THIS NEVER HAPPENED.

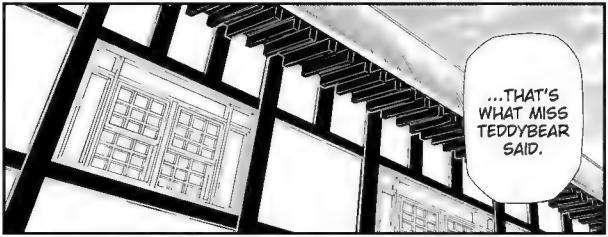
EMERGENCY COUNTER-MEASURES COMMITTEE FOR MIYAMAE KANAKO'S FAILING GRADES IN ALL CLASSES

Spin-Out
Rindou's Depression
SIGH...
NOTHING FUN HAS HAPPENED RECENTLY.
I HAVEN'T EVEN SHOWN UP THIS VOLUME...
...AND I HAVE NO HOPE, NO FUTURE.

WRITING A SPIN-OFF FOR 16 PAGES WAS A LOT OF HARD WORK. I'M GOING TO DIE.

Prayer67 Trying Out a Club Activity


HUH?
BY THE WAY, MIYAMAE-SAN, ARE YOU NOT GOING TO JOIN ANY CLUBS?


...THAT'S WHAT MISS TEDDYBEAR SAID.

BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN ASSIMILATE INTO A CLUB IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SECOND TERM OF MY SECOND YEAR...
DOESN'T THAT DEPEND ON HOW PERSONABLE YOU ARE?
I ALWAYS THOUGHT TRANSFER STUDENTS WERE ADORED, BUT THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY EVENTS TO PROVE THAT.
DOESN'T THAT ESPECIALLY DEPEND ON HOW PERSONABLE YOU ARE?

SACHI-SAN IS THE "HAS-EVERYTHING-ON-HAND CLUB" AND KIRI-SAN IS THE GLASSES CLUB.
HONOKA-SAN AND A/B ARE IN THE DRAMA CLUB...
MARIYA AND YUZURU-SAN ARE IN THE ARCHERY CLUB, RIGHT?

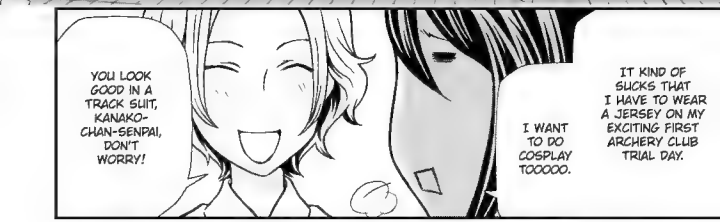
YOU DON'T HAVE TO RESPOND SERIOUSLY TO MY NONSENSE.
DO YOU WANT ME TO CONFIRM THAT? OR DO YOU WANT ME TO INSULT YOU?
MATSURIKA-SAN IS IN... THE MAID CLUB?

SIGH
CLUBS, HUH...

たら
DRIP
ぶぱっ
GUSH

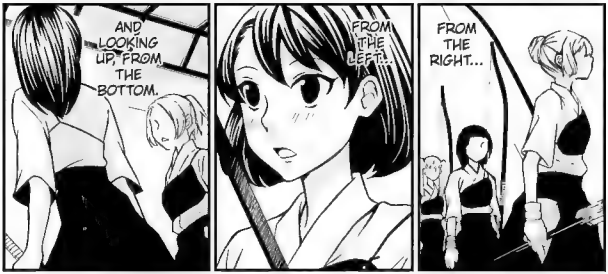
I'M JOINING A CLUB!!
HUH?
TRAINING HALL
MURMUR
TA-DAH

I LOOK FORWARD TO THE EXPERIENCE!
MURMUR
...WHY IS SHE HERE...?
MURMUR
EVERYONE, TREAT HER KINDLY.
THIS IS MIYAMAE KANAKO-SAN, WHO WILL BE TRYING OUT OUR CLUB FOR THE DAY.


YOU LOOK GOOD IN A TRACK SUIT, KANAKO-CHAN-SENPAI, DON'T WORRY!
I WANT TO DO COSPLAY TOOOOO.
IT KIND OF SUCKS THAT I HAVE TO WEAR A JERSEY ON MY EXCITING FIRST ARCHERY CLUB TRIAL DAY.

HUH...? UM... OF COURSE...
I'M GOING TO ASK OUR CLUB LEADER INAMORI-SAN TO TAKE CARE OF MIYAMAE-SAN TODAY.
...THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A COMPLIMENT, RIGHT? THANKS, KOMACHI-CHAN.
YOU LOOK SO GOOD, IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU WERE BORN TO WEAR A TRACK SUIT!

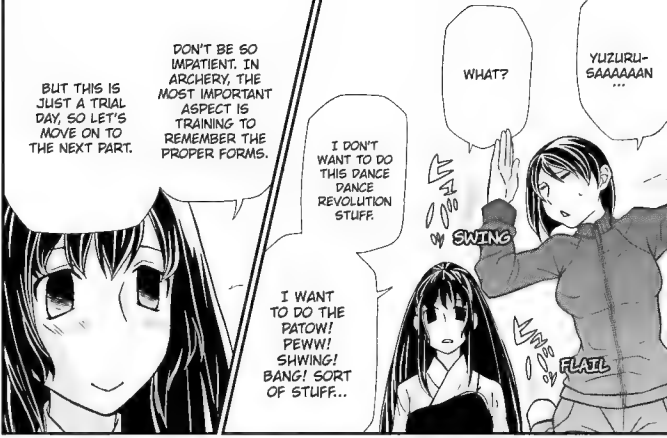
THANKS! I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
Umm...
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU JUST WATCH FOR NOW...
YES SIR!

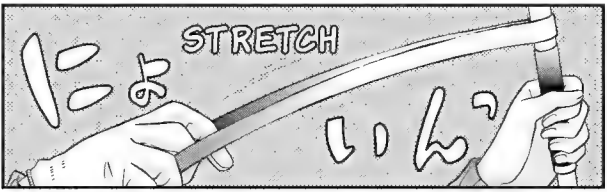

AND LOOKING UP, FROM THE BOTTOM.
FROM THE LEFT...
FROM THE RIGHT...

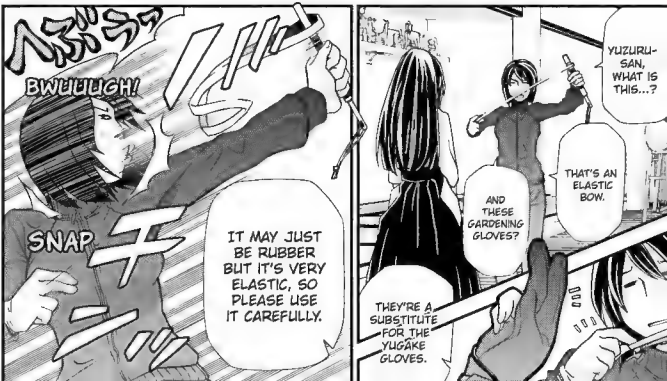
I CAN BURN AS MANY IMAGES OF BEAUTIFUL ARCHERS INTO MY HEART'S CAMERA AS I WANT! ☆
HAVE YOUR LEGS GONE NUMB?
BY THE WAY, ABOUT THAT BEAUTIFUL HALF-RUSSIAN GIRL, ANNA-CHAN...
ANNA-SAN WENT HOME EARLY TODAY.
THIS IS SUPERB...
UH HUH... THIS SITUATION MAKES MY WHOLE BODY TINGLY...
Whaaa?
MY ENCOUNTER PERCENTAGE WITH HER IS SUPER LOW. SHE MUST BE A SUPER-RARE DROP ITEM.

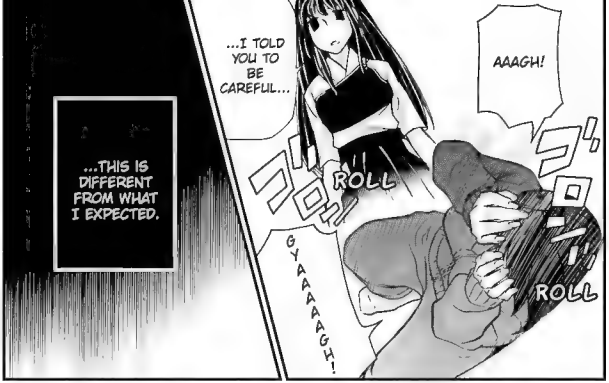
HEY, YUZURU-SAN!
I CAME ALL THE WAY HERE, SO I WANT TO SHOOT TOO.
LIKE, BANG BANG!
THWACK THWACK
AAAAH!
きゃあ
NO, ME!
PLEASE, JOIN OUR CLUB!
AND THEN DATE ME!
きゃあ
OOOOH!
NO WAY! THE ONE KANAKO-CHAN-SENPAI IS GOING TO MARRY IS ME!
きゃあ
KYAAAH!
NO NO, ME!
STOP IT, IT'S TOO EARLY TO TALK ABOUT MAAAARRIAGE ...
SHE'S A GENIUS!
WOW!
おぁっ
OOOH
FEH

THE EIGHT STAGES OF SHOOTING


YUZURU-SAAAAAAN...
WHAT?
I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION STUFF.
SWING
I WANT TO DO THE PATOW! PEWW! SHWING! BANG! SORT OF STUFF...
FLAIL
DON'T BE SO IMPATIENT. IN ARCHERY, THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT IS TRAINING TO REMEMBER THE PROPER FORMS.
BUT THIS IS JUST A TRIAL DAY, SO LET'S MOVE ON TO THE NEXT PART.


STRETCH


BWUUUGH!
SNAP
IT MAY JUST BE RUBBER BUT IT'S VERY ELASTIC, SO PLEASE USE IT CAREFULLY.
YUZURU-SAN, WHAT IS THIS...?
THAT'S AN ELASTIC BOW.
AND THESE GARDENING GLOVES?
THEY'RE A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE YUGAKE GLOVES.


...I TOLD YOU TO BE CAREFUL...
AAAGH!
ROLL
ROLL
GYAAAAAGH!
...THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I EXPECTED.

PATTER
PATTER
...I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONLY ONE WEARING A TRACK SUIT...
...WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS WEARING COOL COSTUMES, OR THE ONLY ONE WITH GARDENING GLOVES AND A TOY RUBBER BOW...
PATTER
PATTER
I WANTED TO START OUT BY SHOOTING THE ARROWS ALL COOL.
I MEAN, I KNOW THAT SOMETHING SO GREAT COULD NEVER HAPPEN, BUT...
KANAKO-CHAN, YOU'RE DOING A TRIAL CLUB EXPERIENCE TODAY?
I CAME TO WATCH!

MMMRR...
I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONLY ONE...
...LOOKING THIS PATHETIC...
DASH
KANAKO-CHAN?!
WAAAAAAHHH!!
PATTER
WAAAAAAAHH!
...WHO KNOWS?
WHY IS KANAKO-CHAN CRYING?
HUH? WHAT HAPPENED?
PATTER

天の如第二女子寮
AME NO KISAKI GIRLS' DORMITORY NUMBER TWO
RATTLE
...AND?
I WANTED TO WEAR AN ARCHERY UNIFORM, TOO.
YOU DON'T GET IT, MARIYA.
YOU WANT TO ORDER A UNIFORM EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO JOIN THE CLUB?
THEY MUST HAVE SPARES, OR SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE AN EXTRA, RIGHT? THEY COULD'VE LENT ME ONE.
THERE'S NO REQUIREMENT THAT CLUBS HAVE TO PROVIDE THAT SORT OF SERVICE.
WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO DO?
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CAME TO THE CLUB FOR A TRIAL DAY, AND YET YOU RAN OUT CRYING?
YOU ENDED UP JUST CAUSING TROUBLE FOR EVERYONE ELSE.

BUT I WAS THE ONLY ONE IN THESE CLOTHES...
THE OTHER MEMBERS WEAR JERSEYS WHEN THEY GO OUT ON THE GROUNDS TO DO THEIR STRETCHES AND BASIC TRAINING.
BUT IF YOU REALLY WANTED TO WEAR ONE, SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE BEEN THE ONE TO POLITELY ASK?
OR, DID YOU EXPECT THEM TO READ YOUR MIND AND FALL ALL OVER THEMSELVES TRYING TO HELP YOU?
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? THAT'S PRETTY SHAMEFUL OF YOU.

THEY USE THOSE ELASTIC BOWS AND THE MEMBERS WHO FORGOT THEIR YUGAKE WEAR GARDENING GLOVES.
ARE YOU CALLING THEM LAME? WOULD YOU LAUGH AT THEM BECAUSE THEY LOOK STUPID?
YOU DON'T GET IT, MARIYA!!

SOB
WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?
YOU DON'T GET IT.
...SEEMS TO BE HER PROBLEM.
KA-CHAK
エヤ。。。
.....
SHE MUST HAVE HAD SOME SORT OF EXPECTATION OR IMAGE FOR HOW IT WOULD GO THAT ONLY SHE KNOWS.
BUT THAT'S JUST HER OWN SELFISHNESS, RIGHT?
YES, IT IS SELFISH.

MARIYA-SAN, HERE...
IS THIS THE LETTER YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT THAT YOUR FATHER SENT TO KANAKO?
YES.
BUT I JUST DON'T FEEL RIGHT LETTING SOMEONE AS IRRESPONSIBLE AS HER READ IT RIGHT NOW...
COULD YOU HOLD ONTO IT FOR ME?
I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO GIVE IT TO HER.
...I WONDER WHEN THE DAY WILL COME THAT I CAN GIVE HER THIS LETTER...?

MARIA HOLIC

MARIA HOLIC²

Spin-Out
The Tale of Kiri-san and Momoi-san

OH! A CAT!
JOLT
RING

AWW, IT RAN AWAY...
I WANTED TO PET IT!
COME HERE...
AH!
RUSTLE RUSTLE
IT HAD A BELL AROUND ITS NECK, SO IT MUST BE SOMEONE'S PET.
I WONDER WHERE IT CAME FROM?

NANAMI-CHAN, DO YOU HAVE A PET AT YOUR HOUSE?
WE HAVE, WELL, LET'S SEE...WE HAVE A CAT, AND A DOG, AND A PIG, AND A LAMB...
OH, AND A HORSE, AND A GOAT, AND A DUCK, AND A CHICKEN ...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR FAMILY ALSO RAN A FARM.

...I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AN ANIMAL.
...NANAMI-CHAN?
IT'S ALL I CAN DO TO TAKE CARE OF THESE.
...HUH?
IS TAKING CARE OF GLASSES ...
...REALLY THAT DIFFICULT?
I DON'T KNOW...
MAYBE I'M JUST MAKING IT OUT TO BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN IT IS...

SWOOSH
BUT I WON'T LET THAT TRAGEDY REPEAT ITSELF AGAIN.
NANAMI...
...CHAN...

MARIA HOLIC
Volume 11

KADOKAWA MANGA

Story and Art by
Minari Endou

MARIA HOLIC © 2013 Minari Endou

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